

**THE BRITISH ESSAYISTS:
WITH PREFACES,
HISTORICAL AND
BIOGRAPHICAL, VOL. XLIII**

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The British essayists: with prefaces, historical and biographical, Vol. XLIII by A. Chalmers

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A. CHALMERS

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WITH
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HISTORICAL AND BIOGRAPHICAL,

BY
A. CHALMERS, F.S.A.

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THE
LOOKER-ON:
A
PERIODICAL PAPER.

BY THE
REV. SIMON OLIVE-BRANCH, A. M.

N^o 51—72.

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THE
LOOKER-ON.

N^o 51. SATURDAY, MAY 4.

*Illam quidquid agit, quoque vestigia flectit,
Componit fortim, subsequiturque decor.*

TIBULL.

Whate'er she does, where'er her steps she bends,
Her every act a subtle grace attends ;
We can't tell how—but when she speaks, it talks ;
We can't tell where—but when she moves, it walks.

IT was last night considered as an especial favour, that I was permitted to have a seat at the female board where my mother sits as presidentess. It had been determined on this evening to take into consideration the state of the female nation—a discussion to which they dedicate one sitting in every six months. Miranda, who is my mother's principal secretary, had the chief direction and management in the business of the day ; and almost all the motions, petitions, remonstrances, advices, &c. either originated with her, or passed through her hands. I think I never saw her appear with such advantage as upon this occasion. It is a most difficult task for a woman to come forth in the character of a director and manager, and to mix in the more active duties of